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Application No.: 09/737118
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Amendment and Correction of Previous Statements
Attorney Docket No.: S63.2-6748-US03

Amendments to the Claims:

Claims 1 - 84 (Canceled).

85. (Previously presented) A protective sleeve for a balloon dilatation catheter comprising:

an elongate tubular member having a neck portion and a slit extending along the entire length of the tubular member from a proximal end to a distal end thereof, wherein a distal portion of the tubular member is flared from the neck portion to the distal end of the tubular member to define an enlarged funnel-like opening.

86. (Previously presented) A protective sleeve as defined in claim 85, wherein the slit extends along a plane that includes a longitudinal axis of the tubular member.

87. (Previously presented) A protective sleeve as defined in claim 85 wherein the slit is helical.

88. (Previously presented) A protective sleeve as defined in claim 85 further comprising:

an outer sleeve disposed about those portions of the tubular member proximal of the flared distal portion, the outer sleeve being configured to maintain the slit of the tubular member in a closed configuration.

89-90 (Cancelled)